

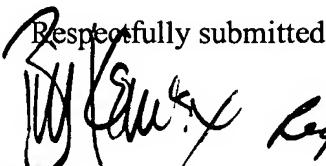
R E M A R K S

Claims 1 - 8 are canceled herein, without disclaimer or prejudice to Applicants' right to prosecute claims directed to the subject matter thereof by way of one or more continuing applications.

Claims 9 - 22 were ALLOWED in the Office action mailed August 1, 2003. Claims 1 - 8 having been canceled herein, all the claims now in the application have been allowed.

This Amendment is being filed within the second month following the shortened statutory period set by the Examiner and, accordingly, it is accompanied by a Petition for two months' extension of time and a fee or fee authorization therefor. If the Examiner determines that a further extension of time is required in connection with the filing of this paper, petition is hereby made therefor, and the Commissioner is authorized to charge the fee to Deposit Account 50-0869 (Order No. CPAC 1008-2).

If the Examiner determines that a conference would facilitate prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone Applicants' representative, undersigned, at the telephone number set out below.

Respectfully submitted,

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